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Environmental

Sustainability in

Business

A Case Study

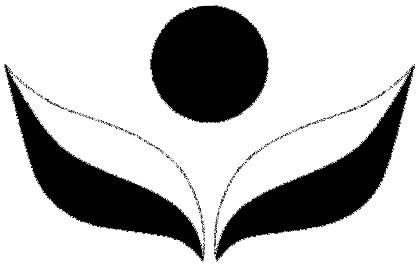
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**For Teachers:**

# Introduction

Business sustainability is becoming more and more relevant to businesses throughout the world. As the world travels at break neck speed towards an increasingly manufactured place, there is increasing pressure on businesses to adapt their practices and procedures to decrease their environmental footprint. In a series of interviews, this program explores why it is in businesses best interests to become more environmentally sustainable by examining what has occurred at three very different types of organisations. It also examines how these organisations changed to become more environmentally friendly, and the benefits this has brought to them. This program features: Anita Roper, Chief Executive of Sustainability Victoria; Jon Ward, Manager of Environmental Policy at Toyota Australia; Ralph Plarre, Ownerof Ferguson Plarre Bakehouse; special appearances by John Brumby, Premier of Victoria, and Rove McManus, television presenter

# Program Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| 00:00:00 | Introduction |
| 00:02:05 | Environmental Sustainability – What is it and why is it good for business? |
| 00:07:05 | Getting started with sustainability – Understanding climate change and the carbon footprint |
| 00:10:54 | Reducing the carbon footprint |
| 00:15:07 | What else can be done? – Strategies to minimise waste and conserve water |
| 00:19:54 | Managing change in the workplace |
| 00:24:18 | New opportunities |
| 00:26:25 | Conclusion |
| 00:26:48 | Credits |
| 00:27:37 | End program |

# Website References

* www.sustainabilityawards.vic.gov.au
* www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/
* www.fergusonplarre.com.au/History/Greenhouse-Challenge.html
* www.toyota.com.au
* www.environment.gov.au/archive/settlements/challenge/index.html
* www.algore.com/

# Other Relevant Programs available from VEA

* A Greener Workplace - Planning and Managing for Sustainability
* Change Management in Large Organisations - Smoking Laws - A Case Study
* Safety First - OH&S in the office • Maximum Return, Minimum Footprint

Please visit our website for more relevant programs www.vea.com.au

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**Student Worksheet:**

# Before Viewing the Program

1. Research the following terms

* + Environmental sustainability

* + Climate Change

* + Carbon footprint (positive / negative)

* + Carbon dioxide

1. In small groups, note down as many environmentally friendly products as you can. Discuss why they are, or are not, successful.

1. In these same small groups, discuss why a business might decide to become more environmentally sustainable, and why they might not decide to concern themselves with being environmentally sustainable.

# While Viewing the Program

1. Complete the sentence: Environmental sustainability means...

1. According to Anita, why is becoming more sustainable good for business?

1. When and why did the thinking behind more sustainable vehicles start?

1. Fill in the Gaps:

Consumers are increasingly choosing to businesses and products that

they to be environmentally friendly.

1. How many tonnes of carbon dioxide is said to be pumped into the atmosphere each year? What effect does this have on the environment?

1. How can businesses measure their environmental impact?

1. Fill in the gaps:

It is important to your after you have set your goals

to improve your business sustainability.

1. Describe four things the Ferguson Plarre Bakehouse did to reduce their carbon footprint.

a)

b)

c)

d)

1. Describe two things that Sustainability Victoria did to reduce their carbon footprint.

a)

b)

1. Fill in the gaps:

of the world’s population produce of the

world’s waste.

1. How does Sustainability Victoria minimise their waste paper?

1. How does Ferguson Plarre reduce their waste?

1. Fill in the Gaps:

Less than of the world’s global reserves of water is drinkable.

1. How did Sustainability Victoria reduce their water usage?

1. What is considered the key issue for getting change to occur?

a) Why is this issue so important?

1. What are some of the ways to get staff to become more environmentally aware?

1. What are some of the economic costs of businesses not being environmentally sustainable?